Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 ACDA-12 /075 W -------085990 111928Z /47

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7564
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 06623

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: BQG PGOV
SUBJECT: PROTEST TO SOVIETS OVER DESTRUCTION OF
POLITICAL POSTERS

REF: (A) USBER 832; (B) BONN 6365; (C) BONN 6359; (D) USBER 808

1. AT APRIL 11 BONN GROUP MEETING, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE DRAFT IN REF (B) IS PREFERABLE TO THE DRAFT IN REF (A). THE FOREIGN OFFICE, FCO AND QUAI HAVE APPROVED THE DRAFT IN REF A (THE FCO APPROVAL IS SUBJECT TO A MINOR AMENDMENT, SET OUT BELOW).

THE FRENCH REP (RICHARD) NOTED THAT THE USBER DRAFT HAD NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE OTHER MISSIONS IN BERLIN. TO HAVE THE OTHER ALLIED MISSIONS REVIEW IT, AND TO SEEK CAPITALS' APPROVAL OF A NEW TEXT WOULD DELAY A PROTEST WHICH SHOULD BE DELIVERED PROMPTLY. UK REP (EYERS) SAID THE DRAFT IN REF (A) WOULD LOWER THE LEVEL TO THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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OF PROTOCOL OFFICER WHEN THE OFFENSE MERITS A
HIGHER-LEVEL PROTEST. THE FRG REP (VON BRAUNMUEHL)
SAID THE DRAFT IN REF (A) WAS WEAKER THAN THAT IN REF
(B). FINALLY, REFERRING TO THE PROPOSAL TO CITE
SPECIFIC STATUTES, EYERS DOUBTED THE UTILITY OF THIS
SINCE THE SOVIETS ARE PRESUMABLY IMMUNE FROM PROSECUTION.

- 2. THE FCO PROPOSED AMENDMENT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCURACY, IS TO SUBSTITUTE THE WORDS "COMPENTENT AUTHORITIES" FOR THE WORDS "THE THREE POWERS" IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE TEXT IN REF (B). AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO MAKE THIS "COMPETENT ALLIED AUTHORITIES." SINCE IT APPEARS THE INCIDENT IN FACT OCCURRED IN THE US SECTOR, THE FIRST PARAGRAPH SHOULD HAVE "AMERICAN" SUBSTITUTED FOR "BRITISH." THE OTHER REPS HAVE AGREED TO THESE CHANGES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO CAPITALS.
- 3. DURING BONN GROUP MEETING, EYERS WAS ALSO NOTIFIED OF FCO APPROVAL OF PROTEST ON SCHEEL INCIDENT (REF C). ALL FOUR CAPITALS HAVE NOW APPROVED THAT DEMARCHE.
- 4. IT WAS AGREED THATTHE CHAIRMAN POLAD WOULD MAKE BRIEF REFERENCE TO THE SOVIET DEMARCHE ON THE POSTERS (REF D) WHEN DELIVERING THE PROTEST AND THAT, IF THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF TEXT IN REF (B) IS RECEIVED PROMPTLY, THE PROTEST ON THE POSTER INCIDENT COULD BE DELIVERED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DEMARCHE ON INTERFERENCE WITH SCHEEL'S MOTORCADE.
- 5. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF TEXT OF PROTEST IN REF (B), AS AMENDED, FOR DELIVERY BY CHAIRMAN POLAD IN BERLIN. STOESSEL

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